

REMARKS

The Office Action dated February 6, 2009, sets forth a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between a set of method claims (Group I) and a set of apparatus claims (Group II).

Specifically, the Office Action states that Group I includes claims 1-12 that are drawn to a method of acquiring ultrasound response data for vascular tissue, classified in class 600, subclass 449; and Group II includes claims 13-25 that are drawn to an intravascular-ultrasound (IVUS) data acquisition system classified in class 600, subclass 449.

Applicants assume that the Office Action intended to include all of the apparatus claims (including currently pending claims 26-34) in Group II. Based on this assumption, Applicants hereby elect to further prosecute **Group II (claims 13-34)**.

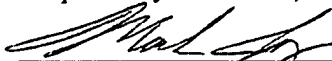
Thus, in response to the Office Action, applicants elect, without traverse, the claims of Group II, namely claims 13-34, for further prosecution in this application. Applicants, however, reserve the right to present the non-elected claims (1-12) in this or any other appropriate application.

CONCLUSION

The application is now in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If, in the opinion of the examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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